National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Jewel Cave National Monument



Spelunking Tour

w and headlamp turned

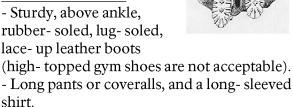
With hardhat in place and headlamp turned on, you're ready to explore the darkness of Hurricane Corner, the Otter Slide, Martha's Kettle, the Roller Coaster, and the Brain Drain. Stalactites, stalagmites, hydromagnesite balloons and gypsum needles await you.

The Spelunking Tour is designed for visitors who want to experience the cave in its natural state. Participants scramble over cave "breakdown," chimney between cave walls, use a handline to climb a nearly vertical wall, and belly crawl through tight passages. The cavers visit 2/3- mile of cave, and learn about low- impact caving, caving techniques and safety, and caving equipment. The tour lasts 3 to 4 hours and is extremely strenuous. Anyone having claustrophobia (the fear of closed or narrow spaces) or acrophobia (a fear of heights) should not attempt this tour.

Participants must be 16 years of age or older. All participants are required to provide proof of age, upon request. A parent or legal guardian is required to sign, on the day of the tour, a waiver of responsibility for any 16 and 17- year- old participants, and should remain at the Monument throughout the duration of the tour. Participants must be in good physical condition and are required to pass through an 8-1/2 inch by 24- inch crawl space before beginning the tour.

The Monument provides a hardhat and headlamp to each participant.

THE PARTICIPANT MUST PROVIDE:



- A change of clothing and shoes, and a plastic bag for carrying soiled clothes and boots from the visitor center after the tour.
- Gloves (leather gloves are recommended, but canvas gloves are acceptable).
- Soft, athletic kneepads and elbow pads are required.

The black manganese deposits encountered during this tour will permanently stain clothing and footwear.

The tour fee is \$27.00. Reservations are required and may be obtained by calling 1-605-673-2288 ext. 2.

Tour size is limited to a minimum of 2 visitors and a maximum of 5 visitors. Tours may be cancelled due to lack of the required number of participants or due to emergencies at the Monument. There is no refund for those who cannot pass through the crawl space.

Jewel Cave National Monument RR I Box 60 AA Custer, SD 57730 (605) 673- 2288 ext. 1220

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